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November 25, 2008

Environmental Protection Agency
Air & Radiation Docket & Information Center
Mailcode: 2822T
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Comments for Docket I.D. No. EPA-HQ-QAR-2008-0318

I support reducing greenhouse gas emissions to address climate change, but EPA should not regulate carbon dioxide under the existing Clean Air Act.

The cost of the red tape to comply with these regulations could be imposed for the first time on many commercial buildings, farms and all but the very smallest of buildings. These businesses cannot afford to absorb the costs to comply with regulations. The average-sized church, restaurant, grocery store, retailer, school, medical facility or office building that uses natural gas would have to meet these requirements or they could be forced to close their doors.

Instead of regulating carbon dioxide under the Clean Air Act, we should wait for Congress to pass comprehensive legislation that will promote new technologies and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Regulating carbon dioxide in a piecemeal fashion under the Clean Air Act is not an effective way to address climate change compared to a comprehensive climate change program. Now is not the time to impose new regulations on consumers and businesses – particularly small businesses – when President Obama and a new Congress will be deciding very soon what kind of climate change legislation makes sense for the country.

Thank you for allowing me to submit these comments.

Sincerely,


H. G. Thomas New, Commissioner
Jefferson County